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17 18 19	Attorneys for Plaintiffs CORY SPENCER, DIANA MILENA REED, and COASTAL PROTECTION RANGERS, INC.	
20	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
21	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CAL	IFORNIA, WESTERN DIVISION
22		
23	CORY SPENCER, an individual;	CASE NO. 2:16-cv-02129-SJO (RAOx
24	DIANA MILENA REED, an individual; and COASTAL	DECLARATION OF JAMES CONN IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION
25	PROTECTION RANGERS, INC., a	SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR CLASS CERTIFICATION
26	California non-profit public benefit corporation,	Judge: Hon. S. James Otero Date: February 21, 2017 Time: 10:00 a.m.
27	Plaintiffs.	Time: 10:00 a.m. Crtrm.:10C
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DECLARATION OF JAMES CONN IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR CLASS

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CERTIFICATION

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LUNADA BAY BOYS; THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE LUNADA BAY BOYS, including but not limited to SANG LEE, BRANT BLAKEMAN, ALAN JOHNSTON AKA JALIAN JOHNSTON. MICHAEL RAE PAPAYANS, ANGELO FERRARA, FRANK FERRARA, CHARLIE FERRARA, and N. F.; CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES; CHIEF OF POLICE JEFF KEPLEY, in his representative capacity; and DOES 1-10.

Defendants.

I, JAMES CONN, declare as follows:

- For the past 30 years I have resided in various cities in the North County area of San Diego, California. I currently reside in Oceanside, California. I work as a radiology technician for First Choice Mobile Radiology, and I also shape surfboards on the side. I have personal knowledge of the matters stated in this declaration and, if called as a witness, could and would testify competently to its contents.
- I grew up in Huntington Beach, California where I attended 2. Edison High School. I took the GED and then attended Orange Coast College.
- 3. When I'm not working, I enjoy visiting various beaches and ocean-oriented park destinations. I am a big wave surfer and have spent my entire life big-wave surfing in California and around the world. I surfed several times per week until five years ago when I got into a bad car 2:16-cv-02129-SJO (RAOx)

CERTIFICATION

accident. I still surf a few times per month. I am actively involved in the surf community.

- 4. One place that can be especially good for big-wave surfing is a beautiful and undeveloped beach in Palos Verdes Estates called Lunada Bay. It is known for having especially large and well-formed waves during Northwest winter swells. When I lived in Huntington Beach and the waves were big, I surfed at Lunada Bay regularly from 1969 until the mid-1980s.
- 5. During my lifetime, exclusion at Lunada Bay has always been a problem. I understood that many other surfers avoided Lunada Bay because of the reputation of threats, harassment, and violence against non-resident beachgoers carried out by the local surfers (nicknamed the "Bay Boys"). I felt comfortable surfing there because I did not mind standing up to Bay Boys and did not let them push me around.
- 6. During those years when I surfed at Lunada Bay, the Bay Boys were usually there, drinking beer and sitting on top of the bluffs. They made derogatory statements toward non-resident beachgoers because they wanted to keep them away. They mostly said things such as, "Get out of here, you don't belong." I recall that the Bay Boys flattened my friend's car tires during one of our visits to Lunada Bay.
- 7. On one visit to Lunada Bay in the early-to-mid 1980s, after surfing, I walked up one of the extremely steep and dangerous cliff trails, carrying my surfboard. One of the Bay Boys standing on the cliff above threw a large rock at my face and it split open my lip. I had to get many stitches to repair my lip and I still have a scar to this day. Aside from the physical injury to my face, I was angry and scared because I could have very easily lost my balance and fallen off of the trail and down the cliff, which would have caused much more serious injury.
- 8. I drove to the nearest pay phone which was about a mile away

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  DECLARATION OF JAMES CONN IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR CLASS

- and reported the incident to the Palos Verdes Estates police but they never came out to help me. They seemed completely uninterested in investigating the incident. Unfortunately, the Palos Verdes Estates police's disinterest in helping me as an outsider did not surprise me because they had a reputation for being "in on it" and not helping non-resident beachgoers who were harassed by the Bay Boys. Despite the well-known bullying, I never saw Palos Verdes Estates police officers at or near the beach when I surfed at Lunada Bay. Without the police monitoring or responding to complaints, the Bay Boys' bad behavior seemed to go completely unchecked.
- 9. It is astounding to me that the Bay Boys' bad behavior continues on today. After decades of harassment and exclusion, it is time for Lunada Bay to be returned to the public.
- 10. As a big-wave surfer, I would like to be able to visit Lunada Bay to surf without fear of physical and verbal attack or the hassle of dealing with the Bay Boy bullies. I want the Bay Boys and other locals to be barred from using this beach for sufficient time to change attitudes, and to give access to the beach back to the public. I want the City of Palos Verdes Estates to enforce its ordinances fairly and for it to provide signage so people will know Lunada Bay is a public beach. I want the City of Palos Verdes Estates to improve amenities in a fashion that makes it safer, provides improved access to all beachgoers, and is both consistent with this rural spot, the California Coastal Act and state and federal law. For example, access trails to the shoreline should be clearly marked to make access safer. I want Palos Verdes Estates police to be available to help when people are unlawfully excluded. In short, I want to be able to visit Lunada Bay without being harassed. And if I am harassed, I want the City of Palos Verdes Estates police to take my complaints seriously.

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1	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States
2	of America that the foregoing is true and correct.
3	Executed in <u>OCEANSSIDE</u> , California on December <u>16</u> ,
4	2016.
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7	JAMES CONN
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